

ferent out of our minds. We've got to flush this out of our collective systems. This is a huge issue. If you look at the coming racial and ethnic and religious diversity in our country, we have to follow the model you have established here for reconciling our differences, celebrating them, and then coming together as one America. I say this because President Truman once said that most of his job was trying to convince people to do things that they ought to do without his having to ask them in the first place. [*Laughter*] Now, that was sort of a down-home way of saying what the President has to do is to always imagine where we're going and try to make sure people are thinking about it in the right way.

I didn't think, even myself, when I came to Washington, we'd ever be able to do what we did on this balanced budget agreement, to get huge majorities of both parties in both Houses to vote for it. I just don't accept the kind of old divisions and inevitable choices that basically rob us of the future we could create in a very dynamic time, when you get everybody together and, as Mr. Upton said earlier, whole new possibilities open up.

I want you to think about this, because you will have other challenges that don't relate to the environment and Lake Tahoe that can be dealt with in exactly this way. And our country and our world is going to have to mature to the point where we bring to bear on other challenges the way—the way you have gone about dealing with this.

And I was sitting here, hanging on every word everybody said, and saying, what I would give to see this kind of thing happening in Sarajevo today, in Belfast today, in Gaza today, in Washington, DC, today. [*Laughter*] What I would give. And I think you need to think about that.

So I will end with a laugh, but I'm dead serious. You think about this. Think about the kind of world you want to make for your children and grandchildren. You cannot—this is a dynamic time. The best days of this country are still ahead, but we have to deal with our most profound challenges in this way.

Democracies only do things when a real majority of people really want to do them. And we have this enormous set of opportuni-

ties, and you have shown us here not only how to deal with the environmental challenges but how we ought to come together to make the most of our common future. And for that, I am very, very grateful. And you may be sure, I will be giving you a lot of free publicity around the country—[*laughter*—in the days and months ahead.

Thank you, and God bless you. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:47 p.m. at the Hyatt Hotel.

Remarks to the Lake Tahoe Community in Incline Village July 26, 1997

Thank you very much. Thank you, Mr. Nakada, for making us so welcome today. I must tell you that we have had a wonderful, wonderful day. I only wish that the rest of my family could be here. They'll be very jealous when I give them a report on what I saw and what I did today.

The Vice President and I are grateful to all the Members of Congress who joined us, including, of course, Senator Bryan and Senator Reid and Senator Boxer who are here with us. And a special thanks to Senator Reid for coming up with the idea and getting us committed to this months ago. It's been a very good thing, I think, this whole summit.

I want to thank Governor Miller for his leadership on this issue. He's my former colleague. I'm going to be back in Nevada just the day after tomorrow at the Governor's conference, which you are hosting, and you should be very proud of the record that he's built and the things that he's done here. I certainly am.

I want to thank all of you for showing up. This is sort of the icing on the cake. I didn't realize you would be here until a few minutes ago. And I thank all the lacrosse players for letting us land on your field. I want to thank the AmeriCorps volunteers for being here, for what you do.

I want to be very brief, but I want you to be serious just for a minute and think about the fact that we are only 3 years away from a new century and a new millennium, that we are very fortunate in the present condition of our economy and in many other

ways, but that we have to have a strategy for going into the future and going into the future together.

I told the people at that summit today that there were three things that I took away from this experience. One is that the United States has a responsibility to help people who are trying so hard to help themselves to save Lake Tahoe, and we will spend over \$50 million in the next 2 years to do our part. The second point is that we can grow the economy and preserve the environment, and they are two sides of the same coin, not inevitably in conflict, and people here have proved that. But the third, and in some ways maybe the most important of all, is that by getting together across lines that divided people—whether they're business people versus environmentalists, Republicans against Democrats, you know whatever the dividing lines are—and saying, "We've got to save this lake and we've got to do this together and we've got to find a way to do it together and to agree on how we're going to do it," you have shown the way to how we have to make a lot of our decisions as we move into this new century.

I very much believe that our best days are ahead of us. I've worked hard with the Vice President and our friends and allies to create a country in which there is opportunity for everybody responsible enough to work for it; a country in which we're coming together as a community, not being divided by our diversity; and a nation that's still leading the world toward peace and freedom and prosperity.

And I'm proud of the fact that we now have the strongest economy in a generation and the strongest economy in the world; that we've had years of declining—[applause]—that we've had years of steadily declining crime rates; that the deficit is now 80 percent lower than it was the day I took office; that we've had the biggest drop in welfare rolls in the history of the Republic. I'm proud of all those things.

The Secretary of the Interior told me a few months ago that we have protected or set aside more acres in public trust than at any time in the history of the United States, except under the Presidencies of Franklin and Theodore Roosevelt. I'm proud of that. But you and I know that we have a lot of

challenges ahead, and we cannot—we cannot—allow ourselves to be imprisoned by the thought patterns or the way of doing things of the past. We cannot believe that our old conflicts have to be carried into a new century. We cannot believe that our old false choices have to be carried into a new century. We can't be forced to choose between the economy and the environment. That's a dumb choice. We have to find a way working together across the lines that divide us to achieve both prosperity and preservation of our most sacred gift from God.

We are becoming by far the most diverse democracy in the history of humanity. We cannot be forced to choose between not only respecting but celebrating our diversity and still saying, we are one America, after all, bound together by shared values and a common future for our children. We can't be forced into that division. If you wonder what happens when you do that, you have only to look at Bosnia, the Middle East, Northern Ireland, and countless other places around the world. We don't want to make that choice.

So I can now go all across America and point to what I have seen in Lake Tahoe and how people at the local level came together across lines that divided them for years to do something that was good and noble and, by the way, in their self-interest, to create a better and a brighter future for our children. And that's how we ought to do other things in America. That's why I appreciate the citizen service of these young AmeriCorps volunteers. And that's why I am determined to stay on this path. That's why the people working for the Vice President and me are back on this beautiful Saturday laboring away with Members of the Congress, trying to reach an accord that will both balance the budget and give Americans a tax cut we can afford and invest more in education and the health care of our children than we've done since 1965. Because I believe if we're willing to really think in new ways and reach out to people across the lines that divided us, the best days of this country are still ahead. I want you to believe that. I want you to work for that. I want you to do your part to save Lake Tahoe. It's not enough to stop the degradation; we have to

reverse some of it. And we can do that if we all work together. And I want you to commit yourselves to take the model that is working for Tahoe into other areas of your lives, because I want to be able to go around this country and say, don't tell me that we can't get along and work together and do better; I have seen it in Lake Tahoe.

Thank you, and God bless you all. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:55 p.m. at the Village Green Soccer Field. In his remarks, he referred to Jim Nakada, board of trustees chairman, Incline Village General Improvement District.

Executive Order 13057—Federal Actions in the Lake Tahoe Region

July 26, 1997

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to ensure that Federal agency actions protect the extraordinary natural, recreational, and ecological resources in the Lake Tahoe Region ("Region") (as defined by Public Law 91-148), an area of national concern, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Tahoe Federal Interagency Partnership.

1-101. The Federal agencies and departments having principal management or jurisdictional authorities in the Lake Tahoe Region are directed to establish a Federal Interagency Partnership on the Lake Tahoe Ecosystem ("Partnership").

1-102. Members of the Partnership shall include the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Transportation, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of the Army, and the heads of any other Federal agencies operating in the Region that choose to participate. Representation on the Partnership may be delegated. The Partnership shall be chaired by the Secretary of Agriculture for the first year after its establishment. The Chair of the Partnership shall thereafter be rotated among the members on an annual basis.

1-103. The Partnership will:

- (a) facilitate coordination of Federal programs, projects, and activities within the Lake Tahoe Region and promotion of consistent policies and strategies to address the Region's environmental and economic concerns;
- (b) encourage Federal agencies within the Region to coordinate and share resources and data, avoid unnecessary duplication of Federal efforts, and eliminate inefficiencies in Federal action to the greatest extent feasible;
- (c) ensure that Federal agencies closely coordinate with the States of California and Nevada and appropriate tribal or local government entities to facilitate the achievement of desired terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem conditions and the enhancement of recreation, tourism, and other economic opportunities within the Region;
- (d) support appropriate regional programs and studies needed to attain environmental threshold standards for water quality, transportation, air quality, vegetation, soils (stream environment zone restoration), wildlife habitat, fish habitat, scenic resources, recreation, and noise;
- (e) encourage the development of appropriate public, private, and tribal partnerships for the restoration and management of the Lake Tahoe ecosystem and the health of the local economy;
- (f) support appropriate actions to improve the water quality of Lake Tahoe through all appropriate means, including restoration of shorelines, streams, riparian zones, wetlands, and other parts of the watershed; management of uses of the lake; and control of airborne and other sources of contaminants;
- (g) encourage the development of appropriate vegetative management actions necessary to attain a healthy Lake Tahoe ecosystem, including a program of revegetation, road maintenance, obliteration, and promotion of forest health;
- (h) support appropriate regional transportation and air quality goals, programs, and studies for the Region;
- (i) support appropriate fisheries and wildlife habitat restoration programs for the